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OF THE

ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL,

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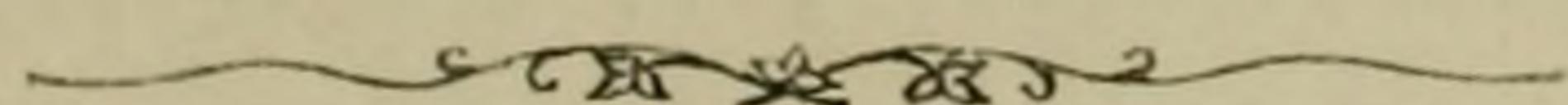
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JANUARY TO DECEMBER,

1871.



CALCUTTA.

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1871.

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Dipsas Forsteni occurs at Pankabaree, base of Sikkim hills.

D. hexagonotus, Bl., is not identical with *D. multifasciata*, Bl., as suggested by Dr. Anderson.

D. bubalina is common in the low valleys of Sikkim.

D. trigonata from Qualior.

Leptorhytaon jara is not considered to be generically distinct from *Lycodon*.

Hypsirhina enhydris has sometimes 23 rows of scales.

Trimeresurus Andersoni of Theobald is quite distinct from *T. monticola* with which it was wrongly identified by Dr. Anderson. It is an Andaman species, and allied to *T. porphyraceus* of Blyth.

[This paper will be published with illustration in the Natural History Part of the Journal for the current year].

5. NOTES ON NEW OR LITTLE KNOWN INDIAN LIZARDS, by DR. F. STOLICZKA.

(Abstract.)

After some preliminary remarks, the author gives notes on the following, known or new, species :—

LACERTIDÆ.

Tachydromus sexlineatus, and the allied species *T. meridionalis*, *T. Haughtonianus** and *T. septemtrionalis*.—*Ophiops Jerdoni*, Blyth, = *Pseudophiops Jerdoni* = *Ps. Theobaldi* and ? = *Ps. Beddomei* of

* The naming of this species was the cause of a most unjustifiable attack by Dr. Anderson upon Dr. Jerdon, as recorded by the former in the Proc. of the Zool. Soc. of London for 1871, p. 156. I do not wish to repeat that presumptuous statement, which has justly elicited the indignation of naturalists at home; but a reference to p. 72 of the Society's Proceedings for February 1870 will shew, that it was I who originally gave that information to Dr. Jerdon, as recorded by him (l. cit.). The specimen, for which the new name was proposed, was received during my temporary tenure of the office as Curator of the Indian Museum, and as such I thought it right in communicating the information to Dr. Jerdon, whom I knew to be engaged in the preparation of a monograph of the Indian Reptiles. A few points of minor importance in the identification of the species have been afterwards compared by Dr. Jerdon, with the knowledge of one or the other of the officers of the Museum. The name *Haughtonianus* has been adopted by Jerdon on my suggestion.—Of all this Dr. Anderson should, or might, have been aware. But if he wishes to style himself a "Director" of the Museum, why should he be so anxious to apply Dr. Jerdon's statement "with the concurrence of the Curator" to himself? The monopoly of naming and describing specimens in a public Museum, which Dr. Anderson appears to claim as his exclusive right, has fortunately not yet been made law in the Indian Museum at Calcutta.

Jerdon.—*Ophiops [Gymnops] microlepis*, Blanf., from Kuhurbalee.—*Acanthodactylus Cantoris*, from near Agra, Ambala, Ludiana &c.

GECKOTIDÆ.

In this family the more important species noticed are : Of *Hemidactyli* 15 species are distinguished :

1. *H. triedrus*, from which Jerdon's *H. subtriedrus* is possibly distinct.
2. *H. maculatus*, D. and B. (smaller form).
3. *H. Pieresii*, Kelaart = *H. maculatus*, D. and B., large specimen, ? = *H. Sykesi*, Günther.
- 4-5. *H. gracilis*, Blf., and *H. reticulatus*, Bedd.
6. *H. frenatus*, (? = *H. punctatus*, Jerdon).
7. *H. Leschenaultii* = *H. Kelaarti*, Theob., = *H. marmoratus*, Blanford.
8. *H. Mortoni*, Theobald ; Burma.
9. *H. Coctæi* = *H. Bengaliensis*, Anderson.
10. *H. aurantiacus*, Bedd.
11. *H. giganteus*, n. sp. Similar to *Coctæi*, but much larger, the general size being equal to that of *Gecko guttatus*. First labial not entering the nostril, 18—20 femoral pores on either side of thigh, separate in præ-anal region ; olive grey, marbled and spotted with darker.

Hab. Godávári valley near Badrachalam, on trees ; discovered by Mr. W. T. Blanford.

12. *H. [Doryura] Berdmorei*, Blyth. This species is re-described, and a figure of it given. Burma, Cachar, Sikkim Terai, Tísta valley and Kumaon.

13. *H. [Doryura] Mandelianus*, n. sp. Body long, much depressed, as is also the tail, the latter with sharp lateral subtuberculate edges ; 12—14 upper, 10—12 lower labials ; first larger pair of enlarged chin-shields forms a suture, second smaller, separated from each other and from the labials by smaller scales ; 36 long series of scales on middle of belly. No femoral pores observed. Grey, densely marbled and punctated or streaked with blackish and with intermixed larger pale spots. Pankabaree and Tísta valley in Lower Sikkim.

14-15. *H. [D.] Gaudama* and *H. [D.] Karenorum*, Theob.

Peripia Cantoris and *Peronii* have generally a distinct minute seta on the inner toe.

Nycteridium platyurus, Schneider, is = *Nyct. Schneiderianum*, Shaw, = *N. Himalayanum*, Anderson.

Gymnodactylus Lawderanus, n. sp. Body covered with small and larger tubercles ; no enlarged scales behind the nostril, 9 upper, 8 lower labials ; first pair of chin-shields forms a suture and is followed by smaller shields ; 32 long. series of scales across belly ; two pairs of femoral pores, close together on præ-anal region ; pale greyish brown, densely spotted with dark brown ; Kumaon ; discovered by Mr. A. Lawder.

G. nebulosus, Beddome, is not = *G. nebulosus*, Blyth, (nomen nudum).

Gym. maculatus, Beddome, 1870, is not = *G. maculatus*, Steind., 1866.

Gym. marmoratus, Beddome, 1870, is not = *G. marmoratus*, D. and B., 1836.

Japalura variegata, may possibly be the same as *J. microlepis*, Jerdon, but is certainly distinct from Jerdon's *planidorsata*, the latter having been wrongly identified by Anderson with the first.

Sitana Ponticeriana extends eastward to the Ganges and northwards to Rúrkí and into the Panjáb.

Charasia Blanfordana, n. sp. = *Ch. dorsalis*, apud Blanford, J. A. S. B., vol. xxxix, 368 ; differs from the latter by its larger scales which are in 80—100 series round the body, &c.

Ch. [Oriotiaris] tricarinatus (Blyth) = *Oriot. Elliotti*, Günther.

Stellio Dayanus, n. sp., differs from *St. tuberculatus*, = *St. indicus* of Blyth, by the larger scales on the back, these being continuous on the neck ; by having only 40 long. series of scales across belly, and by its longer tail and limbs, &c. Hurdwar ; discovered by Dr. F. Day.

Euprepes [Tiliqua] macularius, Blyth, quite distinct from the next ; varies very much in coloration.

E. [T.] carinatus has quite as often 5 as 3 keels on each scale.

Euprepes monticola, from Sahibgunj on the Ganges, has a transparent disc on lower eyelid.

Hinulia indica, Gray, is distinct from *H. maculata*, Blyth and

also distinct from *H. Dussimieri*, D. and B. Characters of the three species accompanied by drawings are given.

Mocoa Sikkimensis is redescribed and is not the same as Günther's *Eum. Himalayanus*.

Mocoa sacra, n. sp. Like *Sikkimensis*, but more slender, with 22 longit. series of scales round the body and 40 transverse series between the limbs; ear denticulate in front; sub-caudals enlarged from near the anus; bronze brown above with a few dark spots, blackish at the anterior side; rest greenish white. Parisnáth; W. Bengal.

A new species of the very rare genus *Ristella*, Gray, has been discovered by Major Beddome in South India. A figure and description of it is given. It is named by Beddome *R. Malabarica*.

Riopa anguina, Theobald. Dr. Anderson has included two different species under this name (see Proc. Zool. Soc. Lon. 1871, p. 159). The measurements and dimensions are mostly those of true *anguina*, but the coloration is taken from a species which Theobald (Lin. Soc. Jour. Zool. p. 26) most probably noted under the name *R. Boringi*, but which is distinct from both these species. It differs from the former by its much longer limbs, but chiefly by its coloration; from the latter by the structure of scales, &c. The specific name *cyanella* is proposed for this new species.

Riopa albopunctata and *Hardwickii*. Notes on the structural affinities as well as on the geographical distribution of these two species are given.

[This paper will appear, with numerous illustrations, in the 1st number of the Nat. Hist. Part of the Journal for the ensuing year.]

6. ON HAMILTON BUCHANAN'S ORIGINAL DRAWINGS OF FISH IN THE LIBRARY OF THE ASIATIC SOCIETY OF BENGAL, *by Surgeon F. DAY.*

In the Library of the Asiatic Society of Bengal exist several volumes of manuscripts and drawings by Dr. Buchanan. In two of these are one hundred and forty-nine original, coloured delineations of fish, and 45 copies. On the former are "the specific names in Buchanan's handwriting, marked under the figures, so as to leave no doubt or difficulty in referring them to corresponding descriptions in the Gangetic fishes." (McClelland.)